
Guidelines Development Group

Biographies of proposed members

Guidelines for multiplex testing including HIV, viral hepatitis and STIs

September 2025

COWIE, Benjamin C. MBBS, GradDipClinEpi, PhD, FRACP

Director, WHO Collaborating Centre for Viral Hepatitis, VIDRL, Doherty Institute, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia

Infectious Diseases Physician, Royal Melbourne Hospital, Victoria, Australia

Professorial Fellow, Department of Infectious Diseases, The University of Melbourne, Victoria, Australia

Professor Benjamin Cowie is an infectious diseases physician and epidemiologist, with appointments at the Royal Melbourne Hospital and the Doherty Institute. He is a Professorial Fellow in the Department of Infectious Diseases, Melbourne Medical School. During the COVID-19 pandemic, Ben has supported the Victorian Government's responses with a focus on community engagement, clinical care for people living with COVID-19, control of community transmission of infection, and in helping establish Victoria's COVID-19 vaccination program. From 2021 to 2024, in addition to his clinical and academic roles, Ben served part time as Victoria's Chief Health Officer. Ben has built a broad research agenda in the epidemiology and control of communicable diseases, with a focus on viral hepatitis. He has supervised a number of Masters Degree and PhD students in this area and has been awarded substantial funding support for both research and innovative program development in relation to viral hepatitis. Ben has been involved in the development of healthy public policy in relation to viral hepatitis in Australia and internationally, and in 2015 was named the inaugural Director of the WHO Collaborating Centre for Viral Hepatitis at the Doherty Institute.

ELMUBARAK, Mazin, MSc

Sudan national AIDS program, Khartoum, Sudan

Elmubarak is a medical doctor and public health specialist with expertise in infectious disease epidemiology, HIV/TB program management, and emergency response. Currently serving as Manager of the Sudan National AIDS Program, Elmubarak has led initiatives to expand HIV services in conflict zones, implement differentiated care models, and integrate health data systems. Previously, as a WHO consultant, Elmubarak supported emergency health interventions, including rapid assessments, service delivery optimization, and cluster coordination during Sudan's humanitarian crisis. With dual MSc degrees in Public Health and Infectious Disease Epidemiology (Chevening Scholar, University of Glasgow), Elmubarak combines clinical experience with research proficiency and has contributed to Global Fund proposals, national strategic plans, and capacity-building programs.

FERNÁNDEZ SUÁREZ, Marta, PhD

Concept Foundation, Geneva, Switzerland

Dr Marta Fernández Suárez is a global health executive spearheading innovation and transformation in healthcare. With over 15 years of experience across academia, industry, and global health institutions, she focuses on developing and increasing access to health products to promote health equity worldwide. Marta currently serves as the Executive Director of Concept

Foundation, advancing innovation and equitable access to sexual and reproductive health products. Prior to joining Concept Foundation, Marta served as Chief Technology Officer at FIND, Switzerland, where she oversaw a global R&D and manufacturing diagnostics product portfolio spanning infectious and non-communicable diseases. Before FIND, she served as Vice President of Assay R&D at Daktari Diagnostics Inc., USA. Dr Fernández Suárez holds a PhD in biological chemistry from Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), USA, and an MSc in chemical engineering from Ramon Llull University, Spain. She has conducted significant research at Massachusetts General Hospital and the Harvard School of Public Health.

FOKAM, Joseph, PhD, MPH

Permanent secretary of the national AIDS control committee, lead virologist of CIRCB, senior lecturer of medical virology, Yaoundé, Cameroon

Joseph Fokam is the permanent secretary of the national AIDS control committee where he oversees and coordinates the national AIDS response strategy in Cameroon. He also serves as lead virologist at the Chantal BIYA International Reference Centre for Research on HIV/AIDS Prevention and Management (CIRCB) and a senior lecturer of medical virology at the faculty of medicine and biomedical sciences of the university of Yaounde I in Yaoundé, Cameroon.

Joseph is a WHO Multilingual Expert Laboratory Consultant, a member of several professional bodies among which: (1) the WHO guideline development group for HIV testing, (2) the WHO HIV drug resistance working group, (3) the scientific committee of the International workshop on HIV drug resistance and treatment strategies, (4) the IAS, (5) the American Society of Microbiology (ASM), African Society for Laboratory Medicine (ASLM) and fellow of HIV Research for Cure Academy. He is a founding-member of the VIROFORUM AFRICA (platform dedicated to viruses of public health importance). With 195 scientific publications in his records, he serves as editor and reviewer to several journals (Nature, PloS, BMC, CHIVR, etc). He is an international consultant and serves as expert reviewer of the scientific committee of the Global health EDCTP joint undertaking.

GASPER, Pamela Cristina, MSc, PhD

General Coordination of the Surveillance of Sexually Transmitted Infections / Department of HIV, AIDS, Tuberculosis, Viral Hepatitis, and Sexually Transmitted Infections/ Secretariat for Health and Environmental Surveillance/ Ministry of Health, Brasilia, Brazil

Dr Gasper is a pharmaceutical biochemist, with a Master's degree in Pharmacy and a PhD in Public Health. Currently General Coordinator for the Surveillance of Sexually Transmitted Infections at the Brazilian Ministry of Health. For over a decade, has focused on the formulation and implementation of public health policies aimed at the prevention, diagnosis, expanded access to testing, and treatment of sexually transmitted infections. Her work also encompasses the surveillance of *Neisseria gonorrhoeae* antimicrobial resistance, the development and revision of national clinical guidelines, and strategies for the elimination of vertical transmission of HIV, syphilis, viral hepatitis, and HTLV. As international experience, she was member of the CDG of Consolidated guidelines on HIV testing services, 2019; member of the Gonococcal Vaccine PPC Expert Advisory Group, 2020; member of the STI and zoliflodacin advisory group, 2024-now, and member of GDG of CDC Syphilis During Pregnancy and Congenital Syphilis STI Clinical Management Guidelines, 2025-now.

GUPTA, Ekta, M.B.B.S, M.D

Professor& Head, Department of Clinical Virology, Institute of Liver & Biliary Sciences, New Delhi, India

Dr Gupta is a clinical virologist with over 26 years of experience in diagnostic virology, specializing in hepatitis viruses, post –transplant viral infections. She holds an MD in Microbiology from KGMC Lucknow, completed Senior Residency and a Research Associateship in Virology at AIIMS New Delhi, and am a Fellow of the Royal College of Pathologists, UK. As Head of Clinical Virology at the Institute of Liver and Biliary Sciences (ILBS), they established and currently lead a NABL-accredited virology laboratory that offers a comprehensive range of molecular and serological diagnostics, including multiplex assays, for viral hepatitis (A–E), Post –transplant Viral infections panels, Respiratory viral panels and several other Viral infections. The lab functions as State Apex Viral Hepatitis Lab, WHO Collaborating Centre for Viral Hepatitis and CDSCO site for external kit validation.

JAYASURIYA, Nimali Dilrukshini Vidanagamage, MD

National STD/AIDS Control Programme Colombo, Sri Lanka

Dr Nimali Dilrukshini Vidanagamage graduated from the Faculty of Medical Sciences, University of Sri Jayewardenepura in 2004 and gained clinical experience in Surgery and Medicine as an Intern Medical Officer at Sri Jayewardenepura Teaching Hospital (2005–2006). In 2008, she obtained a Postgraduate Diploma in Venereology from the Postgraduate Institute of Medicine, University of Colombo, and in 2013, completed her Doctor of Medicine (MD) in Venereology. From 2015–2016, Dr Jayasuriya trained overseas at the Department of Genito-Urinary Medicine and HIV, Guy's and St. Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust, United Kingdom, as an International Training Fellow (ST3–6). This enabled her to achieve board certification in Venereology in Sri Lanka. Since then, she has served as a Consultant Venereologist across multiple locations. Since 2021, Dr Jayasuriya has been working at the National STD/AIDS Control Programme, where she leads three national areas: triple elimination of mother-to-child transmission of HIV, syphilis, and hepatitis B; STI care; and pre- and post-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP and PEP). Her expertise is in HIV, STIs, and sexual health. She has contributed to national HIV/STI policy, guideline development, programme reviews, and surveillance, including EMTCT and HIV testing initiatives.

KAMAU, Grace, BA

Africa Sex Workers Alliance (ASWA), Nairobi, Kenya

Ms. Grace Kamau holds a Bachelor degree in Sociology and Political science from the Catholic University of Eastern Africa. She identifies as a female sex worker and has worked in the HIV field in relation to key populations for 18 years. She has previously worked at Bar Hostess Empowerment Programme (BHESP) as Program Officer and worked as a consultant with the Global Network of Sex Work Projects. Her passion has been working with sex workers on issues of HIV prevention, human rights and movement building. She has also worked as the National coordinator of the Kenya Key Population Consortium and she currently works as the African Sex Workers Alliance Regional Coordinator in Nairobi. She seat as a member of Feminist Opportunity Now (FON) Africa Regional Coordination Committee (RCAC). She is also a Supervisory board member of Mama Cash.

KARKOURI, Mehdi, MD, PhD**ALCS/Coalition PLUS, Morocco**

Dr Karkouri is a professor of Medicine at the Faculty of Medicine of Casablanca, Morocco and the president of Association de Lutte Contre le Sida (ALCS), the leading Civil Society Organization for HIV in the Middle East and North Africa, involved in providing access to care, HIV prevention, and HIV related advocacy. He is member of the National HIV Care Committee of Morocco. He is also the chair of Coalition Plus, the international network of Community Based Organizations. He is involved in several research studies, especially community driven studies working on several topics, including HIV status disclosure, HIV Testing and Counseling, stigma and discrimination drivers. Dr Karkouri has also served as a peer reviewer of the Guidelines Development Groups (GDG) for the HIV Testing Services guidelines since 2015.

MAJAM, Mohammed, MBA**Departmental Head, Director and technical lead for the Medical Technologies unit at Ezintsha, a division of the Wits Health Consortium at Wits University and Managing Director of Health Science Assessments and Research (HSTAR) in Johannesburg, South Africa**

Mr Majam's role spans diagnostics, mHealth and patient connectivity, as well as systems reconfiguration. My aim is to facilitate the introduction of new and innovative technologies to health markets by assessing, developing, and facilitating the transition of early-stage innovations into practice. This includes working with developers to negotiate regulatory and statutory barriers and ensuring that technologies intending for the market are fit for purpose and can contribute to disease control. Global Leader in HIV Self-Testing, heading the STAR project in South Africa. Extensive experience in HIV clinical research and implementation programs in South Africa, and on multi-national projects. A member of World Health Organizations HIV, HCV and COVID19 Self-Testing Working groups, and secretariat for the South African National Department of Health's HIV Self-Screening Technical Working Group.

NCUBE, Gertrude**Ministry of Health and Child Care Harare, Zimbabwe**

Getrude Ncube is a seasoned Public Health Practitioner and HIV Prevention Leader with a master's degree in international health and over 19 years of experience in HIV/AIDS programming. With expertise spanning all levels of Zimbabwe's healthcare system, she is involved in policy and programme development, implementation, and technical support. Ms. Ncube has notably strengthened knowledge management in HIV/AIDS through documentation and dissemination of best practices at national, regional, and global forums, addressing both technical and policy matters. Her leadership has fostered teamwork and integration within Zimbabwe's HIV prevention initiatives.

As a technical leader, Ms. Ncube guides biomedical HIV prevention strategies such as HIV Testing Services and led PrEP demonstration projects that expanded access among high-risk populations. She directs the creation and rollout of evidence-based policies, guidelines, and training materials used throughout Zimbabwe's health sector. Her role also involves engaging communities, traditional leaders, partners, and donors in HIV prevention. Ms. Ncube has contributed to developing WHO Guidelines for HIV Testing Services and HIV Self-Testing, serving as Zimbabwe's focal person for the STAR Research Project pilot. Her work has advanced public health policy and practice both nationally and globally.

NDLOVU, Zibusiso, MSc, PhD

**Medecins Sans Frontieres/Doctors Without Borders (MSF, Southern African Medical Unit),
Cape Town, South Africa**

Dr Ndlovu is a medical laboratory scientist, epidemiologist and biostatistician with over 15 years experience in public health systems strengthening, operational research science and bio-risk management, as well as project management and leadership. Highly adaptable to dynamic work environments and always eager to learn. He leads on laboratory and diagnostic work across disease areas and understands the application of technologies in real world humanitarian settings.

PHANUPHAK, Nittaya MD, PhD

Institute of HIV Research and Innovation (IHRI), Bangkok, Thailand

Nittaya Phanuphak is Executive Director at the Institute of HIV Research and Innovation in Bangkok, Thailand. Dr Phanuphak received her MD from the Faculty of Medicine at Chulalongkorn University, Thailand, and her PhD in Medicine from the University of Amsterdam, the Netherlands.

She has deep interest in the establishment and sustainability of the Key Population-Led Health Services (KPLHS) which empower key population lay providers who are members of key population communities to design and co-deliver sexual and reproductive health, mental health, rights, and other harm reduction services to their peers.

She provides ongoing research support to various implementation science and clinical trial studies as principal investigator or site-principal investigator. She has served as Chair, Co-Chair and member of several WHO Guidelines Development Groups and Strategic and Technical Advisory Committees. She has published almost 300 peer-reviewed articles. She is also the International AIDS Society (IAS) Governing Council Representative of Asia and the Pacific Islands, the Deputy Editor of the Journal of International AIDS Society (JIAS), and the Associate Editor of Sexual Health.

QURESHI, Salman ul Hasan, MA, MPH

Senior Director at Nai Zindagi Trust, Islamabad, Pakistan

Salman Qureshi is a public health professional with over two decades of experience in community-based HIV prevention, harm reduction, and health systems strengthening. As Senior Director at Nai Zindagi Trust, he leads the design, implementation, and monitoring of large-scale Global Fund-supported programs delivering HIV, viral hepatitis, and STI services to over 45,000 people who inject drugs annually across 62 districts in Pakistan. His expertise covers program management, monitoring & evaluation, strategic resource allocation, operational research, and the development of innovative service delivery models, including outreach, ART adherence support, and partner notification services.

Salman has contributed extensively to national HIV policy and strategic plan development, working closely with government bodies, civil society, and international partners such as WHO, UNAIDS, and UNODC. He has served as a member of WHO guideline development groups, including those for person-centered data management under the Strategic Information (SI) framework and for Men and HIV, providing technical and field-informed inputs. Internationally, he has undertaken consultancy assignments in Liberia, Gambia, PNG, Kenya, Nepal, and India, focusing on evidence-based interventions, costing, and capacity building. His work combines technical expertise with hands-on implementation experience in low-resource and high-burden settings, ensuring that global recommendations are grounded in practical realities.

ROSADIÑO, Danvic, DIH

LoveYourself, Philippines

Danvic is the Head of Program and Innovations of LoveYourself Inc., a community-based organization based in metropolitan Manila, Philippines. While the organization's primary focus is on promoting self-worth and self-care among gay, bisexual, and other men who have sex with men (GBMSM), transgender people, and the youth, the organization is primarily recognized for providing sexual health (including HIV), transgender health, and mental health-related services to various communities in the Philippines. He has spearheaded numerous HIV and sexual health research, programs, and innovations, such as Project PrEP (PrEP Pilipinas; introduction of HIV pre-exposure prophylaxis in the Philippines) and SelfCare (introduction of HIV unassisted self-testing in the Philippines). He also conducted research on HIV prevalence and incidence (in the Philippines and Malaysia), and values and preferences studies on Hepatitis C self-testing and COVID-19 self-testing. Currently, he is an Associate Site Investigator for RV583c MOCHI (Multinational Observational Cohort of HIV and Other Infections) in the Philippines. Additionally, he has also provided consultations and workshops on HIV PrEP demand generation in various countries in Asia. He has also been a member of several technical working groups involved in HIV service delivery for the World Health Organization (WHO). He also co-chaired the development of the WHO guidelines recommending long-acting PrEP as additional HIV prevention options: cabotegravir (CAB-LA) in 2022, and lenacapavir (LEN) in 2025. Balancing his passion for learning and advocacy, he also led the learning and development team at LoveYourself. He is also a volunteer HIV counselor, life coach, and client data protection officer. Previously, Danvic held the position of Surveillance Assistant at the National HIV and STI Surveillance and Strategic Information Unit of the

Epidemiology Bureau, Department of Health in the Philippines. Currently, Danvic is pursuing a Master of International Health at the Faculty of Management and Development Studies of the University of the Philippines – Open University. He holds a postgraduate Diploma in International Health from the same institution, which he obtained in 2021. Danvic completed his Bachelor of Science in Biology degree at the College of Science of the University of Santo Tomas, Manila, Philippines, in 2010

TAYERI, Katayoun, MD, PhD

Infectious diseases specialist, HIV/AIDS fellowship, National HIV/AIDS care and treatment consultant and technical Consultant of CDC, MoH, Tehran, I.R.Iran

She is working in field of HIV/AIDS (clinically and administrative) since 22 years ago. As a members of national scientific HIV/AIDS care and treatment committee, she closely involved in developing and revising national HIV/AIDS care and treatment guidelines. She has been organized and conducted high level workshops in field of HIV/AIDS care and treatment for general physicians (GPs) and infectious diseases specialists (IDs), more than 250 GPs who are working in VCT clinics and 64 IDs who are the provincial HIV focal points have been trained. All trained physicians have been joined to networks for online up dating and problem solving. Developing especial guideline for HIV chronic care, HIV self-testing, reducing loss to follow up among PLWH, guideline of integration HIV testing services in harm reduction centres, training manuals about PMTCT and adherence to treatment for PLWH and HCP, HIV nutritional guidelines for PLWH and HCP are some of her activities and publication. She has involved in developing management information system for national HIV program that led to improve quality of data documentation and management. She has been engaged in developing some of WHO guidelines including: one of the researcher in “Global Action Plan on HIV Drug resistance 2017-2021, one of the member of GDG group for developing “WHO 2019 HTS Guideline”, one of external guideline review group of “The public health response to pretreatment HIV drug resistance, July 2017” and external temporary advisor on developing “Definition and categorization of the timing of mother-to-child transmission of SARS-CoV-2 Scientific brief 8 February, 2021”, one of the external guidelines review group of WHO guideline “Recommendations and guidance on hepatitis C virus self-testing, 2021”, one of the GDG group of “Guidelines for the management of symptomatic sexually transmitted infections, 2021”, one of the GDG member of “Consolidated Guidelines on Differentiated HIV testing Services, 2024” and one of the GDG member for developing “WHO Guidelines of Advanced HIV Disease, update 2025 (ongoing)”. She is member of EMRO regional validation committee for EMTCT of HIV and Syphilis.

TALALAYEV, Kostyantyn, MPA, PhD

Professor at Odesa National Medical University, Odessa, Ukraine

Dr Kostyantyn has extensive expertise in infectious diseases and healthcare management. He earned his Doctor of Medical Sciences degree in 2021, focusing on medico-social aspects of medical care for infectious diseases, and his PhD in Medicine in 2007, specializing in treatment approaches for STI/HIV/AIDS among adolescents in rural areas. He holds a Master's in Public Administration

and Management (2019) and is a Certified Specialist in Healthcare System Management (2014). His earlier qualifications include a Doctorate in Dermatovenereology (1999) and a general practitioner qualification (1998). Since 2015, he has served as Vice Rector at Odesa National Medical University, and he has nine years of experience working with the United Nations Population Fund. Professor Talalayev's work is aimed at improvement of medical care quality for different segments of population, including the field of HIV/STIs/viral hepatitis, and is well known among specialists in many countries. For more than 30 years, Professor Talalayev has been organizing medical care for various key groups (PLHIV, transgender people, drug users). For two years, he was a treatment program manager at the International HIV/AIDS Alliance in Ukraine and was responsible for the implementation of STI and MAT programs.

TUCKER, Joseph D, MD, PhD, AM

Professor of Medicine at UNC Chapel Hill; Professor of Global Health at LSHTM, London, UK

Joe Tucker is a physician-researcher at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. His work sits at the intersection of diagnostics, social innovation, and infectious diseases, with a strong focus on HIV and STIs. Joe has worked closely with the WHO, contributing to global and regional strategies on diagnostics and contributing to the TDR Social Innovation in Health Initiative. A core thread in Dr Tucker's research is the role of generosity in health systems. He pioneered the use of pay-it-forward strategies to increase uptake of STI and hepatitis testing—community-driven approaches in which individuals receive a free service and are invited to support others in turn. These strategies have been rigorously evaluated in multiple countries and are shaping local and regional policies on people-centered diagnostics. Joe has published 610 articles, including first-author publications in *The Lancet* and the *New England Journal of Medicine*. He is the PI on US NIH grants totaling 29M USD and is a champion for participatory approaches that amplify community voice. His work brings together social science, behavioral economics, and infectious disease research to reconsider how diagnostics can enhance health systems for marginalized populations.

WALKER, Josephine G, AB, PhD

Bristol Medical School, University of Bristol, Bristol, United Kingdom

Josephine Walker is Senior Lecturer in Health Economic Modelling at the University of Bristol. She has 10 years experience of economic evaluation of diagnostic and treatment interventions for Hepatitis C virus (HCV) and other infectious diseases, including relating to self-testing. Her research has contributed to viral hepatitis elimination strategies in Georgia and Pakistan, WHO guidelines on HCV self-testing and treatment, and ADHD diagnosis and mpox vaccination strategies in the United Kingdom. Current projects include economic evaluation of: COVID testing strategies in New York City, blood-borne virus testing in emergency departments in the United Kingdom, and strategies for HCV testing and diagnosis in Ethiopia and Pakistan.

WANG, Cheng, PhD

Vice President of the Dermatology Hospital at Southern Medical University and the Director of the Training Faculty at the UNC-South China STD Research Training Center. Guangzhou, China

Dr Cheng Wang is the Vice President of the Dermatology Hospital at Southern Medical University and the Director of the Training Faculty at the UNC-South China STD Research Training Center. Additionally, he serve as a Professor at the Southern Medical University Institute for Global Health. His research blends advanced epidemiological methods with their practical applications to addressing challenges on STD prevention and control. His work targets diverse high-risk groups – including men who have sex with men, female sex workers, migrants from low- and middle-income countries, and other vulnerable populations –using innovative approaches such as crowdsourcing, pay-it-forward, and self-testing strategies. His research specifically addresses population-specific barriers to testing uptake by combining behavioral interventions with tailored testing strategies. Dr Wang has led several funded studies on syphilis self-testing, HCV self-testing, and multiplex testing implementation for vulnerable populations, including a WHO, NIH R01 and MRC project.

Through extensive collaboration with University of North Carolina colleagues, Dr Wang has developed interventions for syphilis self-testing scale-up and STI control among people living with HIV. He recently led two large-scale syphilis prevention projects in Guangdong Province, including a pay for performance scheme to improve syphilis case detection rates in Guangdong province. His research develops culturally-adapted testing strategies that incorporate digital platforms, peer networks, and simplified testing protocols, leading to improved case detection rates across diverse key populations.

WANG, Su, MD, MPH, FACP

Cooperman Barnabas Medical Center, Rutgers-New Jersey Medical School, New Providence, NJ, USA.

Su H Wang, is the Medical Director of Viral Hepatitis Programs and the Center for Asian Health at Cooperman Barnabas Medical Center, RWJBarnabas Health and an assistant professor at Rutgers-New Jersey Medical School. Dr Wang serves as Senior Global health advisor for Hepatitis B Foundation and is former president of the World Hepatitis Alliance. She has led primary care hepatitis B and C programs, community based research and advocacy efforts and serves as primary investigator for hepatitis screening, vaccination & linkage-to-care programs. She has served on a number of WHO guideline development committees and is a member of the Global Validation Advisory Committee for triple elimination of mother to child transmission of HIV, syphilis and hepatitis B. She has served in HBV guidelines development for recent WHO, EASL and AASLD HBV guidelines updates.

Dr Wang received her Medical Degree from the University of Miami and Masters of Public Health from Johns Hopkins School of Public Health. She completed an Internal Medicine-Pediatric residency at Georgetown University and CDC's Epidemic Intelligence Service fellowship, following which she directed the hepatitis programs at a community health center in New York City.

WILSON, Valerie, MSc, MBA

Caribbean Med Labs Foundation, Port-of-Spain, Trinidad and Tobago

Valerie Wilson is an Immunologist, Laboratory Specialist and Public Health Professional who has provided leadership and technical advisory services to Ministries of Health, private and public sector laboratories and staff in countries within the Caribbean region, through her work at the Caribbean Epidemiology Centre (CAREC/PAHO/WHO), and more recently as Director of the Caribbean Med Labs Foundation (CMLF).

She has extensive experience working within the Caribbean, particularly in the areas of public health laboratory reference and referral services, laboratory management, quality improvement, strategic management and community-based testing. She has played a leadership role in raising awareness of governments and laboratories in the Caribbean region with respect to the need for medical laboratory standards and quality management systems, and for regulation of medical laboratories. As a result, several countries in the Caribbean have adopted national laboratory policies and some have passed legislation for regulating their medical laboratories while several laboratories (public and private) have achieved international accreditation.

Valerie is currently Co-Chair of the WHO Global Validation Committee (GVAC) for Elimination of Mother to Child Transmission of HIV, Syphilis and Hepatitis B (EMTCT), a member of the PAHO Regional EMTCT Validation Committee, and was previously a member of the WHO Strategic Advisory Group of Experts on In-Vitro Diagnostics (SAGE-IVD).
